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DISSENTERS OUT OF THE BJP's NATIONAL EXECUTIVE TEAM

The 80-member body has Union ministers and influential newcomers like Mithun Chakraborty and Dinesh Trivedi

SWAMY, MANEKA GANDHI, VARUN DROPPED

Maneka Gandhi and son Varun were dropped hours after the latter's tweet on the Lakhimpur Kheri violence. Subramanian Swamy, vocal critic of the leadership, too, was removed. Choudhary Birendra Singh, who recently shared the dais with Om Prakash Chautala, was axed. Prahlad Singh Patel lost his slot perhaps after his name cropped up in the Pegasus list | P9

HEADY MIX OF VETERANS, NEWCOMERS

- Smriti Irani made a comeback. Heavyweights like Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari retained their positions
- S P S Baghel and Dara Singh Chouhan, both imports from the BSP with strong following in the backward castes, were inducted
- Veterans L K Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi have been retained

Nov 7
WHEN THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TWO YEARS

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Terrorists gun down principal, teacher in Srinagar school

Distraught family members of Deepak Chand, a teacher from Jammu who was killed in a terrorist attack at a government school in Idgah area of downtown Srinagar, on Thursday | PTI

KILL ME ALSO, SAYS KOUR's MOTHER

A pall of gloom descended on the house of Supinder Kour, whose relatives are yet to come to terms with her death. "Kill me also," wailed her mother even as relatives made futile attempts to console her. "What had she done? She was a teacher. She has small kids. *Aag lage is Kashmir ko* (let this Kashmir burn)," she said

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

TERRORISTS barged into a government school on Thursday and shot dead its principal and a teacher at point-blank range, in a shocking escalation of targeting civilians here in the last few days. As many as seven civilians have been killed in the Valley in just five days.

Thursday's attack happened when the teachers were taking online classes. No student was in school at the time of the incident.

The deceased were identified as principal Supinder Kour from Aloochibagh in uptown Srinagar, and Deepak Chand from Jammu. Police said the terrorists entered the Government Boys Higher Secondary School at Sangam around 11.15 am and opened fire. While Deepak died on the spot, Supinder succumbed on the way to a hospital. Two days ago, a prominent Kashmiri Pandit chemist, Makhan Lal Bindroo, and two others were killed in similar attacks.

Claiming responsibility for Thursday's attack, terrorist outfit The Resistance Front claimed it was a retributive strike against those who had allegedly harassed parents into making their wards attend the August 15 Independence Day functions.

Soon after the attack, security forces launched a search for the assailants, but no arrest was reported till the time of going to press.

Meanwhile, terrorists lobbed a grenade at a CRPF bunker in Safakadal in Srinagar on Thursday night, but there was no loss of life. Officials said the grenade hit the netting of the bunker and exploded on the roadside. P10

WILL GIVE BEFITTING REPLY: L-G

Lt Governor Manoj Sinha condemned the killings and said a befitting reply would be given to the perpetrators. "The terrorists and their patrons will not succeed in disturbing peace, progress and prosperity of J&K," Sinha tweeted. Leaders cutting across party lines as also social and religious groups condemned the attack

Early signs of water contamination were ignored: Villagers

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @ Makarabbi (Hoovina Hadagali)

EVEN as the death toll in Makarabbi village in Hoovina Hadagali taluk of Vijayanagara district is rising, the villagers have claimed that the administration ignored early warnings of water contamination. It was in early September that the first person got sick after consuming contaminated water, but the local administration did not react till over 100 people got admitted to various hospitals, they say.

The village, with a population of 2,000, has four borewells out of which water from three have been declared as unfit for consumption. A section of villages have claimed that the ongoing works to provide piped water to houses had damaged the water pipeline, leading to drainage water mixing with it.

Villagers claim that contamination of drinking water started after the Jal Jeevan Mission project work was taken up | KIRAN BALANNANAVAR

In the last three weeks, the village has reported six deaths. But the villagers claim that the toll may rise further as many people are under treatment in ICUs. Goneppa Anagaragatti (55), Basamma Havanur (70), Laxmavva Karagangoudar (48), Nilappa Belavagi (60) and Kenchamma Haranakatti (70) from Makarabbi village have died so far. Meanwhile, senior IAS officer Munish Moudgil, who is heading a team tasked with investigating the deaths, visited the village on Thursday, interacted with the villagers and collected details. P7

UP summons out for minister's son

State scrambles to take action as SC seeks report

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

WITH the Supreme Court breathing down its neck demanding a status report on probe into the Lakhimpur Kheri violence within 24 hours, the UP Police tried to get its act together, arresting two aides of the main accused Ashish Mishra and detaining three others here on Thursday.

As for Ashish, son of Union minister Anil Mishra, he has been summoned to appear at the Lakhimpur police lines for interrogation at 10 am on Friday. "We have summoned him. We will record his statement," said Laxmi Singh, Inspector General of Police, Lucknow zone. The summons notice was pasted at the Lakhimpur residence of Ajay Mishra.

Earlier in the day, the Supreme Court had asked the state government to submit a full report by Friday after taking suo motu cognisance of the matter.

The two arrested persons were identified as Luvkush and Ashish Pandey. Their arrest happened full four days after the violence that led to the killing of eight persons, including four farmers and a journalist, indicated the police were dragging their feet till now. "The accused named in the FIR have been called for questioning. If they don't turn up, we will go to court and follow due legal process," the IG told this newspaper, adding teams have been set up for their arrest and questioning.

Significantly, the IG confirmed the recovery of empty bullet shells from the violence site. The FIR lodged on the basis of the farmers' complaint alleged that Ashish opened fire after getting down from a car that mowed down the protestors. "In the light of this, the incident site was meticulously probed by a metal detector today," a police statement later said.

The IG also said the arrested persons have given a lot of information. "During interrogation, they confirmed the presence of three others who were killed in the violence." The IG was, however, cagey on whether they confirmed Ashish's presence in one of the cars that rammed into the protestors from behind. Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Singh Tikait has demanded Ashish's arrest by October 12.

Meanwhile, the UP government named retired Allahabad High Court judge Pradeep Kumar Srivastava as the head of the single-member judicial commission that will investigate the violence.

Probe trajectory

Additional Director General of Police S N Sabat said events unfolded only after the "accident". Anyone behind the wheel has complete control over the vehicle and is 100% responsible for it, he said, adding others in the vehicle could have a reason to 'instigate or abet' whatever happened

I-T dept raids 50 locations across state

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Directorate General of Income Tax (DGIT), Karnataka on Thursday carried out simultaneous search and seizure operations at nearly 50 locations in the state, including Bengaluru, in connection with alleged tax evasion and amassing wealth more than the known sources of income.

Though the DGIT has been tight-lipped about the searches and seizures, sources said the tax sleuths reportedly searched the premises of a person close to a former chief minister. The raids were conducted on the premises of some contractors, engineers and chartered accountants, who are involved in key irrigation projects in the state. Besides Bengaluru, the raids were conducted in Tumakuru, Bagalkot, Belagavi, Vijayapura and Davangere, said sources.

Among the entities searched is Satyanarayana Construction Company's site office at Singrihalli village near Elerampura in Koratagere taluk of Tumakuru district. P4

WON'T AFFECT GOVT: CM

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday said he is gathering information about the raids. He insis-ted that it won't affect the govern-ment and added that he can only comment after he has all details.

NPAs set to rise as stress in retail loans deepens

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

IN July this year, retail loans overtook corporate credit, perhaps for the first time in Indian banking history. The trend continued in August, and it is likely that in Q2, the aggregate retail loan book of banks will surpass their corporate counterpart by a modest mile.

But the celebratory cheer could be short-lived due to rising bad loans. According to India Ratings, overall stressed assets in the retail segment will likely touch 5.8% of total advances by the end of FY22 from 2.9% a year before. In Q1 alone, according to Care Ratings, gross NPAs in retail and MSME loans of PSU banks rose to 7.28% from 6% the previous year. The incidence of bad loans was less intense for private banks at 3.32%.

To contain the stress, lenders have mounted massive restructuring this fiscal. For instance, SBI restructured loans worth ₹20,000 crore in Q1, of which retail personal loans were at ₹9,000 crore. These include unsecured loans, personal loans, home, auto and education loans. But unlike in the past when NPA woes were limited to state-run lenders, this time private banks will equally face the music given their foothold in retail sector. India Ratings believes the asset quality impact in retail sector has been significantly higher for private banks, forcing them to restructure loans helping to defer immediate rise in slippages.

world egg day
think egg
Nature's Premium Protein Food
EGG
Egg gives the whole some goodness of proteins, vitamins and minerals of a variety of different foods. With 14 key nutrients egg is nutrition dense food and the cheapest too. Eating egg everyday makes you fit, strong, healthy and of course a WINNER too. On this World Egg Day, let's resolve to take an Egg everyday.
On the occasion of World Egg Day, NECC wishes everyone for a strong and healthy life.
NECC
NATIONAL EGG CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE
Sunday ho ya Monday, Roz Khao Ande.

BRITAIN BLINKS
INDIANS OUT OF ITS QUARANTINE LIST

The UK said on Thursday there will be no quarantine for Indian travellers if they are either fully vaccinated with Covishield or any another UK-approved Covid-19 jab. The rule will come into effect from Monday, October 11, British High Commissioner to India Alex Ellis tweeted on Thursday | P9

EXPRESS READ

Four-storeyed building collapses in Bengaluru

Bengaluru: A four-storeyed building collapsed in Kasturinagar here on Thursday, becoming the third structure to crash in just under two weeks. No casualties or injuries were reported. P2

NATIONWIDE	OCT 6	OCT 7
Fresh cases	18,833	22,431
Recoveries	24,770	24,602
Deaths	278	318
KARNATAKA	**OCT 6**	**OCT 7**
Fresh cases	523	442
Recoveries	621	635
Deaths	9	7

No change to Balabrooie for now, says K'taka High Court

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court, in an interim on Thursday, said status quo should be maintained with regard to the heritage building Balabrooie Guest House, which has been proposed to be converted into a Constitution Club for legislators. The structure was constructed in the city in 1850.

A division bench of Acting Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum made it clear that the guest house shall not be allotted to any organisation and that no trees should be felled on the premises, till further orders.

The court was hearing an interlocutory application filed by Dattatraya T Devare and Bangalore Environment Trust against the plan to convert the Balabrooie Guest House, which houses large heritage trees which are more than 150-200 years old, into a Constitution Club.

During the hearing, the Additional Advocate General vehemently argued that no decision has been taken so far on converting the heritage building into a club and on felling of trees. P4